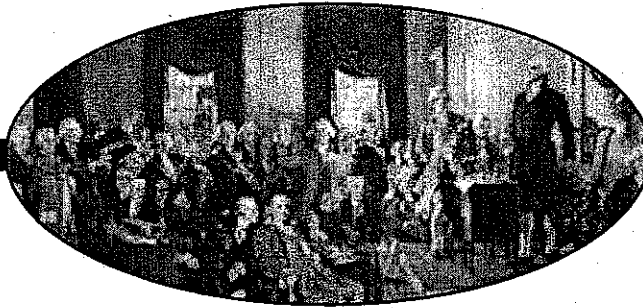


# The Electoral College



## What is the Electoral College?

The Electoral College is a method for electing the president of the United States. When the citizens cast their vote for president, they are actually voting for electors. The electors will then vote for the candidate they represent in a separate election. For example, if the Democratic candidate receives more popular votes than the Republican candidate in a particular state, the electors representing the Democratic candidate will then cast their votes in a later election. The Democratic candidate would then receive all of the electoral votes for that state.

## Why was the Electoral College created?

The framers of the Constitution felt it was too risky to elect the president of the United States by a popular vote alone. However, many also objected to giving Congress the power to elect the president. As a compromise, the Electoral College system was put in place.

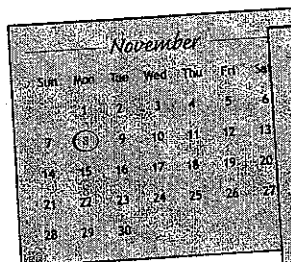
## Who are the electors in the Electoral College?

- Electors are people nominated by state political party officials to vote for the party's candidate. The potential elector campaigns for a position and a vote is held at the state's party convention.
- An elector cannot be a representative or senator, a high-ranking U.S. official, or someone who has "engaged in insurrection or rebellion" against the United States.

## When does the Electoral College meet?

Popular elections for president are held on a Tuesday following the first Monday in November, in years divisible by four (for example, 2000, 2004, 2008, 2012, etc.) Electoral College voting occurs on the Monday following the second Wednesday in December.

Popular Election



Electoral College Election

